

39th Annual Arizona Peace Officers Memorial Service

Monday, May 7, 2012 Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

Every moment -- in every place in Arizona - we're blessed to have the protection of our officers of the law.

They serve -- knowing danger is a part of their job.

They serve -- knowing they will not get rich doing what they were called to do.

They serve -- by putting on the uniform, and saying to Arizona citizens, "I'm here for you, I'll protect you -- I'll keep you safe -- risking my own life, if necessary."

I know of no other group more fully committed to the well-being of others than those who wear the uniforms that we see all around us this evening.

This is what I see in those uniforms:

The protection of community.

The pursuit of justice.

The safeguarding of fellow citizens.

The devotion to core values of decency.

The bold confrontation of danger.

This, after all, is what the courageous do.

They go where others dare not walk.

They step into darkness, called by their sense of duty and a bravery we can only imagine.

And ... their loss cannot be measured.

It can never be fully mended.

It can never be forgotten.

And, we don't want to forget.

We want to remember.

That's why we're here with bagpipes, songs and prayers. We've come in solemn tribute to

Larry Woolsey ...

Rolando Tirado ...

Hector Clark ...

Eduardo Rojas ...

Darrell Curley ...

Brad Jones ...

And William Coleman.

While we might question the reason, the purpose, that these fine officers were taken from us -- and their families -- and all those who loved them so -- we do not question that their peace now is complete -- their watch

now ended – and that God's hands have lifted them high and carried them home.

May God's grace continue to dwell with the friends and families of these fallen giants -- and may His grace walk beside the giants in uniform who guard us still.

May God bless you all.